

Anniston, Alabama

June 27, 2019

The City Council of the City of Anniston, Alabama, met in Special Session in the Council Chamber of the City of Anniston, Alabama, on Thursday, June 11, 2019, at approximately 5:00 o'clock p.m.

Benjamin Little, Council Member, prayed the Invocation.

Benjamin Little, Council Member, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Steven Folks, Interim City Manager, was present.

Bruce Downey, City Attorney, was present.

Mayor Draper called the meeting to order. On call of the roll, the following Council Members were found to be present: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Little, Harris, and Draper, absent: none. A quorum was present and the meeting opened for the transaction of business.

Council Member Little made a motion to initiate job search for permanent City Manager. The motion was seconded by Council Member Reddick.

Council Member Reddick made a motion to amend Council Member Little's motion by adding that the city council hire a firm to bring back 3-5 names for the position of City Manager for the council to vote on. **motion failed for lack of a second**

Council Member stated that he disagrees with the proposed amendment and that the council should have full control over the search for City Manager from the beginning to the end.

Council Member Harris stated that the City needs some continuity. She stated that the council and the city is in a very precarious situation right now because of the move; and that a person of Mr. Folks caliber that is very familiar with the operations of the City and the respect of community should help lead this move and transition us into the new location. She stated that the time to put out a search for a City Manager is not good right now; and that it would be difficult considering the past and what has gone on to attract a quality candidate; and that what has been said in the media has not reflected well on the City.

Council Member Reddick stated it is weird to be an elected official and to sit here on the dais and say we don't deserve a good city manager, we don't look good enough; we're so terrible looking and the news is so bad that there's no way we can have a good city manager. He stated that that is what he is hearing. He stated that he thinks Mr. Folks will make a good city manager but he is the Interim City Manager, at the moment; and that they should not string Mr. Folks along.

Mayor Draper stated that the time is not right to make that decision today but Mr. Folks is absolutely the right person for the job based on his training, experience, character, skillset, standing & stature in the community. He stated that he does not think they could find a better city manager.

Council Member Little stated that it would be wrong, irresponsible, and reckless to put Mr. Folks in that position, and that he would not be amenable to be thrown into the briar patch. He stated to make a statement that we are so horrible in the news right now and no one will want to come here is pathetic; and that there were plenty of people out there that said the same thing about the school board. He

stated that any leader would like to come into a situation and make it better. He stated that it is more than having stature in the community but knowledge as a City Manager and that he does not think Mr. Folks has that knowledge or ability. He stated that they should start to initiate the job search.

Council Member Jenkins stated that the only thing he would add to the conversation is that he is not convinced that the time is right to begin the search for different reason; and they are about one year from an election of the council; and that he has been involved with seven city managers in his time on the council. He stated that the average is about six months, in getting the information out there, collecting the resumes, vetting the candidates, narrowing down the list, beginning the interview process, selecting the candidates again, negotiating the terms of the contract, and getting them in place. He stated that you are asking a candidate to move down here and their job security is only for six months.

Council Member Reddick stated that he feels like they are stringing Mr. Folks along; and that according to the bylaws an Interim cannot do more 120 days. He stated that if the man deserves the position than give him the job and if he does not let us start the search.

Mayor Draper stated that when they vote on it at the appropriate time Mr. Folks will have his vote.

Council member Reddick asked what better time is it than now. He stated let us give the man the support or not string him along; and that is why he suggested hiring a firm.

Council Member Little stated that he does not support Mr. Folks as City Manager, for interim it is one thing; and that Council Member Jenkins comments are monstrosity hypocritical, when they voted Kent Davis in with less than a month to go. He stated that this is what brings up the dissention within the council when they sit up and make those kind of statements and they did the opposite before. He stated that all he wants is a search conducted and that if Mr. Folks wants to put in his application, he should. It is not to get a city manager to benefit the council, whether they are there or not, but to get a city manager that can be effective and efficient that will do things for the city. It is about following the ordinance and the law for the City of Anniston to have a city manager in position.

And on call of the roll, the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Reddick and Little; nays: Council Member Jenkins, Harris, and Draper. The motion to initiate a job search for permanent City Manager failed.

Mayor Draper introduced Resolution 19-R-169, a Resolution to stay enforcement of prohibition against nonemergency ambulance service operators providing emergency transports originating at hospitals within the city:

Resolution NO. 19-R-169

A Resolution to Stay Enforcement of Prohibition Against Nonemergency Ambulance Service Operators Providing Emergency Transports Originating at Hospitals Within the City

WHEREAS, the Council for the City of Anniston passed and adopted Ordinance No. 19-O-6 during its regularly scheduled meeting on June 16, 2019;

WHEREAS, said ordinance amended Section 31.47 of the Code of the City of Anniston, Alabama, 1981, governing nonemergency ambulance services, to state specifically that ambulance service operators

licensed by the City to provide only nonemergency transports shall not provide emergency transports, unless done pursuant to a mutual aid agreement or the emergency exception;

WHEREAS, said ordinance further clarified that the violation of this prohibition may result in the suspension of the nonemergency ambulance service operator's license to provide nonemergency transports within the city;

WHEREAS, as a result of said ordinance, certain ambulance service operators from participating in the hospitals' call rotation, and the lack of sufficient ambulances for said rotation has presented patient-safety concerns;

WHEREAS, the Council intends to take-up an ordinance amending its regulation of ambulance service operators to specify that ambulance service operators licensed by the City to provide nonemergency transports are also permitted to respond to calls initiated by medical providers, or on their behalf, to transport patients from a hospital within the City, even when then transport would otherwise be considered an emergency transport;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council for the City of Anniston, Alabama as follows:

Section 1 . The Council declares that no ambulance service operator shall be in violation of the provisions of Chapter 31, Article III of the Code of the City of Anniston, 1981, by transporting patients from hospital located within the City in response to an ambulance call initiated by or on behalf of a medical provider, including any such ambulance calls made pursuant to the hospitals' ambulance call rotation. In the interests of public health, welfare and safety, the Council directs that the enforcement of any prohibition against ambulance service operators from participating in the hospitals' ambulance call rotation or responding to ambulance calls from a hospital shall be stayed for the duration of the effective term of this resolution.

Section 2. This resolution is of an emergency nature, and it shall be effective immediately upon its passage and adoption. This resolution shall remain in the effect for thirty days, at which time it shall expire, unless renewed by resolution of the council.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 27th day of June, 2019/

City Council of the City of Anniston, Alabama

By:/s/ Jack Draper, Mayor

By:/s/ Jay Jenkins, Council Member

By:/s/ Benjamin Little, Council Member

By:/s/ Millie Harris, Council Member

Council Member Jenkins made a motion for passage and adoption of Resolution 19-R-169. The motion was seconded by Mayor Draper.

Council Member Little asked who vets these things?

Mayor Draper stated that ultimately it would be vetted by Chief Collins and the CQI Board.

And on call of the roll the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Member Jenkins, Little, Harris, and Draper; nays: none; abstentions: Council Member Reddick. The motion passed and Resolution 19-R-169 was passed and adopted.

There being no further business to come before the council at that time Mayor Draper made a motion the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Council Member Harris; and on call of the roll, the following vote was recorded: ayes: Council Members Jenkins, Reddick, Little, Harris and Draper nays: none. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:20 o'clock p.m.